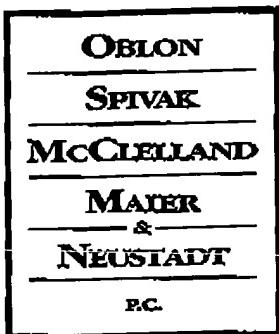


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	NAME	204398US2
	703-413-3521	OUR REFERENCE
	DIRECT PHONE #	09/820,933
MESSAGE		

Please find the enclosed proposed amendment to be discussed during our appointment with you tomorrow, Friday 1/10, at 11:00 a.m.

Please feel free to call me prior to then if you have any questions or comments.

Thank you.

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## PROPOSED AMENDMENT ONLY: DO NOT ENTER

27. (New) A multi-beam scanning device, comprising:

- ✓ a laser diode array having at least three light emitting points arranged at an equal interval and configured to emit respective laser beams that form corresponding laser beam spots on a recording medium at a minimum recording interval,
- ✓ wherein the laser beams from the at least three light emitting points scan the recording medium in a main scanning direction to form a light image having the minimum recording interval in the recording medium,
- ✓ the equal interval is not greater than the minimum recording interval, and one of the three laser beams is ~~configured to be used as~~ a clock laser beam to determine a starting time for each scanning.

28. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:

- ✓ a recording medium; and
- ✓ a laser diode array having at least three light emitting points arranged at an equal interval and configured to emit respective laser beams that form corresponding laser beam spots on the recording medium at a minimum recording interval,
  - wherein the laser beams from the at least three light emitting points scan the recording medium in a main scanning direction to form a light image having the minimum recording interval on the recording medium,
  - the equal interval is not greater than the minimum recording interval, and
  - one of the three laser beams is configured to be used as a clock laser beam to determine a starting time for each scanning.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT ONLY: DO NOT ENTER

29. (New) A multi-beam scanning device comprising:  
a laser emitting means for emitting laser beams, comprising three light emitting points  
<sup>at least</sup>  
arranged at an equal interval and configured to emit the at least three laser beams to form  
corresponding laser beam spots on a recording medium at a minimum recording interval,  
wherein the laser beams from the at least three light emitting points scan the recording  
medium in a main scanning direction to form a light image having the minimum recording  
interval on the recording medium,  
the equal interval is not greater than the minimum recording interval, and  
one of the three laser beams is configured to be used as a clock laser beam to determine a  
starting time for each scanning.

30. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:  
means for recording data thereon; and  
means for emitting laser beams, comprising three light emitting points arranged at an  
equal interval and for emitting laser beams to form corresponding laser beam spots on the means  
for recording at a minimum recording interval,  
wherein the laser beams scan the means for recording in a main scanning direction to  
form a light image having the minimum recording interval on the means for recording,  
the equal interval is not greater than the minimum recording interval, and  
one of the three laser beams is configured to be used as a clock laser beam to determine a  
starting time for each scanning.

31. (New) A multi-beam scanning device comprising:

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT ONLY: DO NOT ENTER**

a light beam emitting array comprising three light emitting elements, which are arranged at predetermined locations and which emit respective laser beams to form corresponding laser beam spots on a recording medium at a minimum recording interval,

wherein the three or more laser beams scan the recording medium in a main scanning direction to form a light image having the minimum recording interval on the recording medium, and

wherein one of the three laser beams is configured to be used as a clock laser beam to determine a starting time for each scanning.

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